

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed August 11, 2006 and the Examiner Interview conducted by telephone on August 29, 2006. Claims 1-5, 18 and 23 were rejected.

The present invention is directed to a method of forming a head suspension assembly with a mounting region with an integral boss tower. The amendments to claims 1, 18 and 23 were made after consultation with the Examiner to clarify the claimed tabs or mounting features are integral with the mounting region.

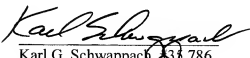
Claims 1-5 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sogabe. Sogabe discloses spacers 23, 123 that form the interface between suspension arm 20 (See Figure 10) and a pivot shaft 14 (See Figure 3). The spacers 23, 123 of Sogabe are not part of the suspension arm 20. Rather, the spacers are discrete components to which the suspension arm is attached. Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference does not anticipate claims 1-5 and that claims 1-5 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sogabe in view of Tanaka. For the reasons discussed above, Applicant submits that the cited references do not teach or disclose the claimed tabs on the mounting region that comprise a portion of the boss tower.

No fees are believed to be necessary for the entry of this paper. However, if any fees are required for the entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the required amount to our Deposit Account No. 06-0029 and, in such an event, is requested to notify us of the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

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